

**THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE—
AN INITIATIVE ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

**A Project of the
Community Interventions Task Force,
Commission on the Mental Health
of Adolescents and Young Adults**

**Hogg Foundation
for Mental Health**

**The University of Texas
Austin, Texas 78713-7998**

1990

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**COMMISSION ON THE MENTAL HEALTH OF
ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS**

***TASK FORCE ON COMMUNITY INTERVENTIONS**

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INTRODUCTION

In the summer of 1989 the Runaway Youth Case Conference Committee, chaired by Judge Paul R. Davis Jr. of the 200th District Court, Travis County Juvenile Court, issued a report highlighting problems that impact the lives of many children and adolescents in Austin and Travis County.

Judge Davis and his committee were not alone in their concerns. These problems—running away, drug and alcohol abuse, dropping out of school, child abuse, pregnancy, gang violence—have been and are being addressed by other agencies and organizations at both the state and local levels. All of these initiatives have one thing in common: a recognition that the problems of children and youth cut across organizational and political boundaries, requiring cooperation and collaboration among service planners.

The Community Interventions Task Force of the Hogg Foundation's Commission on the Mental Health of Adolescents and Young Adults also was concerned about the difficulties communities face in effectively serving children and youth in need of help. The task force noted a number of specific problems:

- Lack of preventive services that reach out to families, with services rarely initiated until serious problems exist.
- Lack of early intervention programs and resources for high-risk individuals and families, resulting in an unnecessarily high number of residential placements.
- Barriers to agency collaboration in serving youth and families, especially in regard to differences or conflicts in legal responsibility, eligibility rules, and funding requirements and restrictions.
- Gaps in the continuum of services, frustrating the efforts of agencies attempting to provide appropriate and effective assistance for aggressive adolescents and young adults, older adolescents involved in gang violence, or inpatient substance abuse treatment for families without health insurance.
- Lack of community procedures for evaluating the quality and effectiveness of available services.
- Lack of an organizational framework for resolving service delivery problems and for mediating conflicts between agencies.

Task force members recognized that service delivery problems cannot be overcome solely by state or federal agencies but must be resolved through the cooperative efforts of all the providers involved. They proposed conducting a demonstration project showing how community resources could work together to provide more effective services for children and youth in trouble and for their families. The result was the Community Leadership Conference.

The conference was perceived as a working meeting of persons in official leadership positions in both the public and private sectors. Community action issues were the focus. Although other concerns such as a community needs assessment and factors contributing to specific youth problems were viewed as important, they were not the focus of the proposed meeting.

This report was prepared to help other communities interested in undertaking similar initiatives to provide better services. It is directed to persons in leadership positions in the areas of mental health, public health, juvenile justice, child welfare, and education, as well as to all citizens concerned about Texas youth.

GROUNDWORK

SETTING

Austin/Travis County was selected for the conference setting. It was chosen for its accessibility as well as its relatively high level of community concern evidenced by existing efforts to deal with the problems of children and youth. These efforts included:

- **The Social Policy Advisory Committee (SPAC).** Established in 1977, SPAC consists of elected officials from Austin, Travis County, and the Austin Independent School District and members of the board of directors of the United Way-Capital Area. It was created to help coordinate funding for nonprofit organizations that provide community services to the residents of Austin and Travis County.
- **The Runaway Case Conference Committee.** This committee was initiated by Judge Paul R. Davis Jr. following his participation with staff members from youth-serving agencies in a national conference on homeless and runaway youth. Its objective was to coordinate service planning for runaways and other children and youth with multiple problems known to the Juvenile Court.

The committee met monthly during the spring of 1989. That summer it prepared a report to the community based on the participants' experiences in working together. The report specified that:

"An action plan for dealing with runaways in Austin/Travis County should be developed which includes a community policy, methods for resource development to fill service gaps, and methods for producing funding for services."

- **TRIAD.** Begun in 1987 as a joint effort among the Travis County Child Welfare Board, the Austin/Travis County Mental Health/Mental Retardation (MHMR) Center, and the Travis County Juvenile Court, TRIAD funds services for children in need of multi-agency services who "fall through the cracks." The program uses funds provided by the Travis County Commissioners' Court to purchase services which otherwise would be unavailable through existing agencies.
- **Austin Independent School District (AISD) Community Interagency Task Force Committee.** Initiated by the AISD Director of Student Support Services, the committee brings together representatives of service providers in child and family mental health and substance abuse programs.
- **Community Resource Group.** Four local demonstration projects were initiated by the Texas Health and Human Services Coordinating Council to bring together, on a monthly basis, representatives of state agency regional offices and local service agencies serving children and youth. The purpose was to develop service plans for young people in trouble who receive services from one of the agencies but also require services from others. In the Travis County demonstration project, the chief probation officer of the Travis County Juvenile Court serves as chair of the Community Resource Group.
- **Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment Study.** This study, which was sponsored by the Travis County Commissioners' Court, City of Austin, and the United Way-Capital Area, was completed in 1988.

PRELIMINARY MEETINGS

Initial Leadership Meeting

In September 1989, Wayne H. Holtzman, President of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, hosted a meeting for key community leaders. Invited were:

Mayor, City of Austin
Chair, Executive Committee, United Way Capital-Area
Board President, Austin/Travis County MHMR Center
Judge, Travis County Juvenile Court
Superintendent, Austin Independent School District
County Judge, Travis County

Attendants at the meeting acknowledged that there were serious problems in the organization of services for young people in trouble, and they agreed that the community costs were increasing for last-ditch solutions—often institutional placement—to problems that should have been dealt with earlier. Each participant agreed to designate a staff member to attend a meeting to explore the possibility of a working conference of community leaders.

The Working Group

Following the initial meeting, staff representatives from the participating organizations met twice, in October and November, and agreed to proceed with plans for a conference. In mid-December, the first meeting was held of the Working Group—persons who would make and carry out the plans for a community leadership conference for children and youth in Austin/Travis County. In early January, members set June 15, 1990, as the date for the conference and began working on detailed plans.

The Working Group met seven times between February and June 1990. Meetings, scheduled about every three weeks, were held at the offices of the Travis County Human Services Department. David M. Austin, Hogg Foundation consultant, served as chair of the group, and Hogg Foundation staff provided support services.

Membership of the Working Group expanded as the project developed. As finally constituted, it included representatives of the following organizations:

Austin Independent School District
Office of the District Attorney
United Way-Capital Area
Austin/Travis County MHMR Center
Travis County Juvenile Court
Travis County Child Welfare Board
Health and Human Services Department, City of Austin
Human Services Department, Travis County
Travis County Child Protective Services, Texas Department of Human Services
Hogg Foundation for Mental Health

Figure 1

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE TIME LINE

1989

September

Two meetings of organization staff representatives

December

First meeting, Working Group

1990

January

Second meeting, Working Group. Discussion of conference date, invitation list, format

February

(1) Third meeting, Working Group. Discussion of conference description for use in meeting with community leaders; identification of background materials to prepare
(2) Meetings with community policy groups and newspaper editor
(3) Progress report to participants in September meeting

March

Fourth meeting, Working Group. Discussion of conference format, letters of invitation

April

(1) Fifth meeting, Working Group. Discussion of draft copy of background materials; procedures for obtaining case examples for discussion groups
(2) Initial letter to invitation list with date and purpose of conference; return registration card with space to suggest persons to invite
(3) Sixth meeting, Working Group. Planning for luncheon panel, recruiting group facilitators, and meetings with television stations

May

(1) Seventh meeting, Working Group. Discussion of subject areas for morning discussion groups; initial discussion of alternative action plans for the future
(2) Eighth meeting, Working Group. Discussion of children's budget report, other background materials. Initial discussion, conference follow-up

June

(1) Training meeting for group facilitators
(2) Ninth meeting, Working Group. Final review of conference procedures
June 15 - Community Leadership Conference
(3) First follow-up meeting. Initial summary of recommendations; discussion of follow-up plans

July

Second follow-up meeting. Report on conference evaluations; review of revised background materials for report to participants

August

Conference report mailed to participants.

CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS

Developing Public Interest

Following the decision to proceed with plans for a Community Leadership Conference, Working Group members made presentations about the goals and objectives of the conference to key groups in the community. These included:

- School Board, AISD
- Austin City Council
- Board of Directors, Austin/Travis County MHMR Center
- Travis County Commissioners' Court
- Executive Committee, United Way-Capital Area
- Austin Association of Human Service Agencies (AAHSA)
- Social Policy Advisory Committee (SPAC)
- Travis County District Attorney

They also discussed conference plans with the editor of the *Austin American-Statesman* and news staff at the three local network television stations.

Planning the Conference

Throughout the five months prior to the conference, the Working Group identified and carried out a number of tasks. The following were crucial to the success of the conference.

- **Develop a timeline.** (See Figure 1)
- **Prepare background materials for conference packets.** These included:

- A Budget for Children's Services—a summary of governmental and nongovernmental community expenditures from all sources for services to children and youth. (See Attachment A)

- Roster of Agencies Providing Children and Youth Services—a list developed from the Community Resource Directory and from rosters of United Way agencies and agencies receiving funds from the City of Austin and Travis County. (See Attachment B)

- Summary of one month's calls to local service providers for emergency mental health services.

- Recommendations from recent community studies.

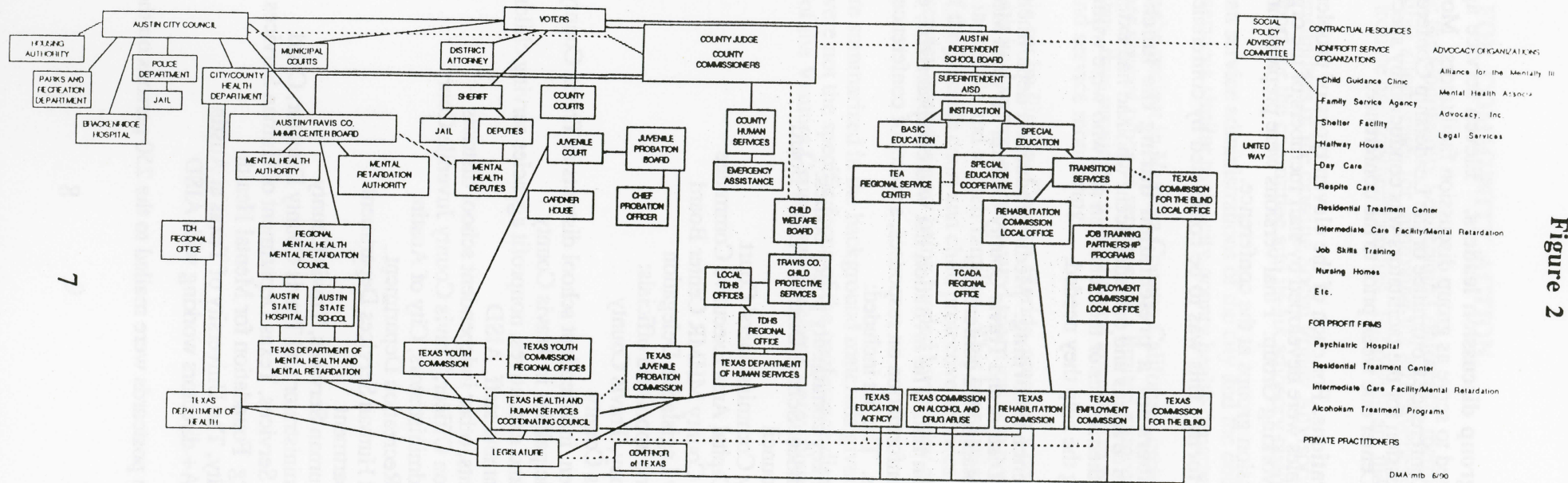
- Description of organizations involved in interagency coordination and program development

- Description of community action alternatives for the future.

- Conference roster—an address list of all persons who registered for the conference.

- The "Maze"—a diagram of connections among governmental and nongovernmental organizations dealing with children and youth in Austin and Travis County. (See Figure 2)

VI. THE "MAZE" OF AUSTIN-TRAVIS COUNTY'S SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS



- **Recruit and train group discussion leaders.** Eleven service agency staff members were selected to serve as group discussion facilitators. Most were members of the Runaway Case Conference Committee or the Leadership Conference Working Group. A training session for the facilitators was conducted by specialists from the Dispute Resolution Center one week prior to the conference.
- **Prepare case illustrations.** For each of the eleven types of problems to be discussed, two short case examples were developed by staff members of the organizations represented on the Working Group. Final versions were prepared in a common format for use by the discussion groups at the conference.
- **Prepare evaluation form.** This was to be completed by conference participants.
- **Recruit panel members for a presentation during the luncheon.** Service agencies identified three adults and one adolescent who had had extensive experience in seeking services for themselves or their children and who were willing to talk about their difficulties in finding the help they needed.
- **Arrange for conference recording.** Media production departments of the Austin Independent School District and Travis County General Services Media Department collaborated in videotaping the conference.
- **Prepare an invitation list.** The invitation list was computerized, enabling the staff to provide up-to-date information on responses, a roster of conference participants, and individual name tags. The list included:
 - (1) All members of key community policy bodies:
 - Austin Independent School District (AISD) Board
 - Austin City Council
 - Travis County Commissioners' Court
 - United Way-Capital Area Executive Committee
 - Austin/Travis County MHMR Center Board
 - Travis County Legislative Delegation
 - (2) Other elected and appointed officials:
 - District Attorney, Travis County
 - Sheriff, Travis County
 - Board chairmen, independent school districts in Travis County
 - Mayors, municipalities in Travis County
 - Board chairs and executives, nonprofit agencies serving children and youth
 - Superintendent and staff, AISD
 - Superintendents, other independent school districts
 - Chief Probation Officer, Travis County Juvenile Court
 - Department administrators, City of Austin:
 - Parks and Recreation Department
 - Health and Human Services Department
 - Police Department
 - Director of Human Services, Travis County
 - Regional Administrator and Travis County Director, Child Protective Services, Texas Department of Human Services
 - Officers, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health
 - Selected faculty, The University of Texas at Austin
 - IBM Project A+ directors working with AISD

Invitations with return postcards were mailed to the 250 persons on the final list.

ALTERNATIVES FOR COMMUNITY ACTION

In addition to planning the Community Leadership Conference, members of the Working Group discussed possible alternatives for improving the effectiveness of services for children and youth in trouble and for their families. Following are the alternatives that were considered.

- Expanding the responsibilities of the existing Social Policy Advisory Committee and providing staff support for the committee and its six advisory task forces.
- Combining the human service administrations of the city and the county, creating an agency for human services similar to the city-county health department.
- Using as an example the project in Ventura County, California, creating a combined staff unit to bring together several types of services for a limited number of high-risk, multiproblem families, thus providing a coordinated approach to problem assessment, service planning, and service monitoring.
- Based on the example set by Pinellas County, Florida, creating a countywide Board of Juvenile Welfare with its own tax levy dedicated specifically to providing services for children and youth in trouble and to their families. This board might include some of the current functions of the juvenile court and child protective services and could contract with the nonprofit service agencies now being funded by the city of Austin and Travis County.

These alternatives were summarized in the background materials given to each conference participant, but they were not the specific focus of the conference discussion. For a summary description of the Ventura County and Pinellas County planning models, see Attachment C.

THE CONFERENCE

PROGRAM

The one-day conference included an overview of the purpose of the meeting, concurrent group discussions on key problems of youth, and recommendations for future action. A copy of the program is shown in Attachment D.

In his overview, Judge Paul R. Davis Jr. specified key objectives and procedural guidelines for the conference.

- Conference participants should function as knowledgeable persons in community leadership positions, not as representatives of specific service organizations.
- The objective of the conference was to identify common operational problems in existing programs, then focus on ways to improve services for the future.
- The report on the conference would not attribute any recommendation or conclusion to any identified individual or specific agency.

In the morning work session, participants were assigned to one of 11 discussion groups. Representatives of different organizations were included in each group, but individuals were not assigned on the basis of either their organizational affiliation or their experiential backgrounds. Each group met around a table with a facilitator knowledgeable in the topic area to be discussed, and all sessions were recorded.

The work groups' assignment was to identify critical barriers and problems in the organization of services for children and youth. The two case examples given to each of the participants were used to initiate discussions. Each group focused on one of the following problem areas:

Gang violence
Suicide
Physical abuse
Child neglect

Delinquency
Sexual abuse
Mental illness
Child abandonment

Drug abuse
Teen pregnancy
Runaways

A panel of three parents and one adolescent addressed the full conference during the luncheon. All of the speakers personally had experienced a variety of problems in seeking needed services for their children and themselves, and their accounts added a personal note to the day's deliberations.

The working groups formed in the morning reconvened for the afternoon session. They were asked to identify changes needed in the system of community services and to select the three most important to report to the full conference. Each group submitted a summary of its three priority issues. A composite summary was presented at the final session of the conference.

Following adjournment, members of the Working Group, facilitators, and recorders met for feedback on the conference experience.

A total of 250 persons were invited to the Community Leadership Conference; 150 persons responded that they would attend; 127 persons attended.

RECOMMENDATIONS

At the end of the afternoon session, each group was asked to identify three important action issues which they thought should be pursued to improve community services to children and adolescents in trouble and to their families. A report of these recommendations, along with summaries of problems and barriers identified by each group in the morning session, can be seen in Attachment E. Following are highlights of the recommendations for action:

- Develop a community-wide telephone information and referral system on children and youth services, accessible to the public and to service agency staff members.
- Establish procedures for the centralized coordination of services to high-risk, multiproblem children and families.
- Set a high priority for early intervention and prevention services for children and their families.
- Provide for a regular process of agency self-evaluation and for communitywide assessment of service quality.
- Expand and encourage the interagency process through such methods as the Community Leadership Conference.

EVALUATION

Conference participants were given an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the conference through rating scales and open-ended questions. Approximately 50 percent of the participants completed and turned in evaluation forms. A copy of the evaluation form and a summary of the responses are shown in Attachment F.

A majority of respondents expressed satisfaction with the conference and approval of the effort to have participants function as knowledgeable individuals rather than as agency representatives. They found group facilitators effective in leading group discussions, and they considered informal networking one of the most important benefits of the conference. Many expressed concern about whether any action would result from the conference.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

The Working Group held two follow-up meetings in June and July, 1990. The main purpose was for group members to prepare written summaries of (1) the problems and barriers to services reported by the work sessions, (2) the recommendations made by the participants, and (3) the conference evaluations.

At the end of July, a conference report was sent to all participants as well as to all members of community policy-making organizations whether or not they attended the conference. Conference background materials were included with the summary material.

CONFERENCE SUPPORT

The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health provided major funding for the conference. This included:

- Support for a consultant to provide staff support to the Task Force on Community Interventions, develop initial plans for the conference, and chair the Working Group.
- Support for a research assistant to gather financial information, prepare the children's budget, and prepare an inventory of agencies serving children and youth.
- Direct conference costs including room rental and noon luncheon.
- Staff assistance to prepare and distribute minutes of the Working Group and preliminary drafts of conference materials, assemble conference packets, and handle registration and on-site conference support.
- Mailing and reproduction costs for the Working Group and the conference.
- Training fee for the Dispute Resolution Center.

Attachment A

A Budget for Children's Services

The Children's Budget represents a "snapshot" of the funding sources for services to Children and Adolescents in Austin and Travis County. This summary is not intended to represent a discrete analysis. Decisions on the construction of the budget have frequently been made arbitrarily in order to facilitate and simplify the process of documentation. Consistent attempts have been made to avoid duplicating the figures recorded. Since agencies vary in their budgeting periods the figures presented here includes a mix of annual budgets for 1988, 1989, 1990.

This Children's Budget summary does not include the following funding sources and services.

1. Medicaid and Food Stamp payments for Austin/Travis County
2. Food contributions and allocations of The Capital Area Food Banks and pantries
3. Parks and Recreation Department budget for adolescent services and summer activities
4. AISD's basic education budget
5. Proprietary service agencies and hospitals
6. Allocations for general organizational overhead
7. Salaries for the Juvenile Court Judges and related court operation costs
8. School districts other than AISD and other municipalities

Community Expenditures in Behalf of Children and Adolescents

Federal Funds

CDBG (child care) (Community Development Block Grant)	\$500,000
Non-profit agencies	\$4,940,125
Health	\$888,523

TOTAL = \$6,328,648

State Funds

Juvenile Justice	\$501,917
Texas Dept. of Human Services/ Aid to Families with Dependant Children (excluding food stamps)	\$9,898,261
Texas Dept. of Human Services/ Child Protective Services	\$8,278,927
TYC (Texas Youth Commission)	\$1,239,095
TCADA (Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse)	\$7,281,125
Texas Dept. of Mental Health/ Mental Retardation (hospital and residential costs for youth from Travis Co.)	\$1,952,740
Austin/Travis County MHMR (includes mental health and mental retardation programs)	\$2,124,295
Non-profit Agencies	\$1,455,076

TOTAL = \$32,731,436

Travis County Funds

Juvenile Justice	\$4,815,645
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Family Justice Division District Attorney's Office (partial costs for 1990)	\$616,806
Child Welfare Board	\$917,322
Austin/Travis County MHMR	\$250,001
Travis Co. Sheriff's Child Abuse Unit	\$138,829
TRIAD	\$361,820
Emergency Assistance (to 25,000 households with children)	\$1,409,329
Non-profit agencies	\$1,454,165

TOTAL = \$9,825,088

City of Austin Funds

Austin Police Department Adolescent Services	\$1,719,000
Austin/Travis County MHMR	\$274,308
Health	\$6,299,336
Non-profit agencies	\$1,955,632

TOTAL = \$10,178,276

United Way-Capital Area

TOTAL = \$1,937,760

Austin Independent School District
Human Services & Instruction
to at-risk or handicapped Adolescents
(includes federal, state, local funds)

TOTAL = \$23,179,300

Other Funding Sources to Non-profit organizations
(includes fees for services, private grants,
fundraising, charitable organizations, etc..)

TOTAL = \$6,260,674

GRAND TOTAL = \$90,650,011

Approximate expenditures for residential,
foster home, shelters, and hospitals

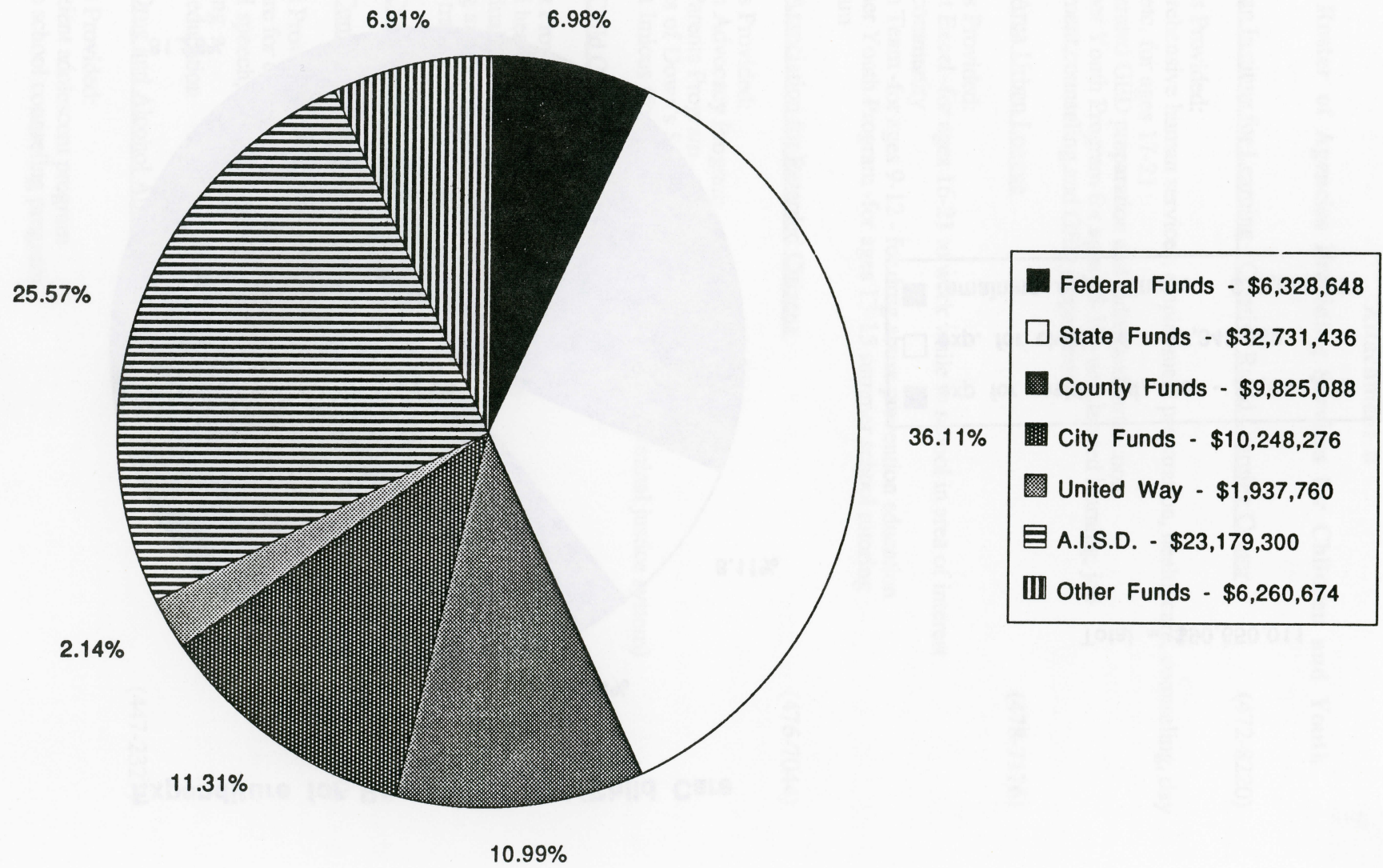
[TOTAL = \$9,641,372]

Approximate expenditures for childcare

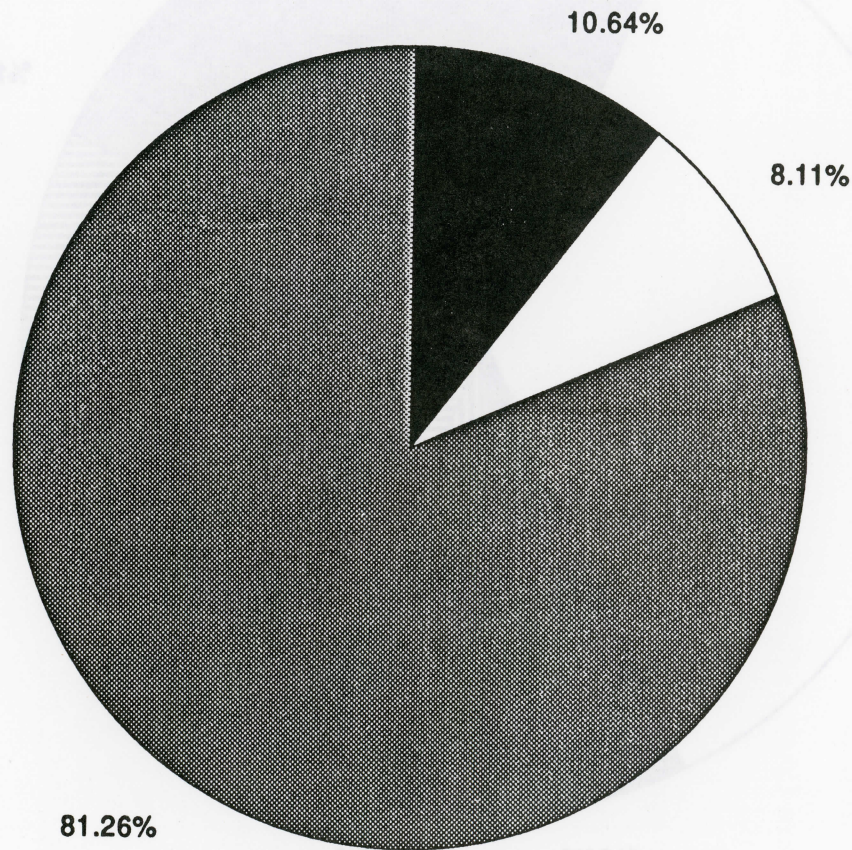
[TOTAL = \$7,349,562]

Grand Total - \$90,650,011

Children's Budget



Expenditure for Residential and Child Care



Total = \$90,650,011

- exp for residential, etc. - \$9,641,372
- exp. for childcare - \$7,349,562
- ▒ remaining expenditures - \$73,659,077

Attachment B

Roster of Agencies Providing Services for Children and Youth

American Institute for Learning - Creative Rapid Learning Center

(472-8220)

Services Provided:

- Comprehensive human services, employment preparation, health care, counseling, day care, etc. for ages 17-21
- Accelerated GED preparation and individual instruction
- Summer Youth Program for ages 15-18 - accelerated learning, job placement, counseling, and GED preparation.

Austin Area Urban League

(478-7176)

Services Provided:

- Project Excel -for ages 16-21 to work while in school in area of interest in the community
- Dream Team -for ages 9-12 - for drug abuse prevention education
- Summer Youth Program -for ages 13-15 summer school tutoring program

Austin Association for Retarded Citizens

(476-7044)

Services Provided:

- Citizen Advocacy Program
- Pilot Parents Program
- Parents of Down's Syndrome Persons
- Project Imicus (for retarded citizens involved in criminal justice system)

Austin Child Guidance Center

(476-6015)

Services Provided:

- Mental health services to children and families
- Individual, family and group psychotherapy
- Testing and evaluation
- Parent training

Austin Children's Museum

(472-2494)

Austin Community Nursery Schools

(442-2310)

Services Provided:

- Day care for children of low income families
- Annual speech, hearing, dental, vision and health screening
- Parent education

Austin Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program

(447-2327)

Services Provided:

- Out-patient adolescent program
- On-site school counseling program

- Psychological testing and evaluation, medical examinations
- Family Program
- Drug and Alcohol Education

Austin Family House

(441-2086)

Services Provided:

- Residential treatment (9-12 months) for chemically dependent women and their children (12 years and under), Women must be 18 years and older

Austin Families Inc.

(454-4732)

Services Provided:

- Childcare Switchboard -information and referral for parents to locate childcare
- Day Home Provider Program for qualifying families
- Quality Development Program -childcare specialist
- Child development specialists and technical assistance

Austin Police Department/Youth Services Division

(480-5000)

Services Provided:

- Child Abuse Investigation
- Project DARE
- Juvenile Intervention

Austin Police Department/Victim Services Division

(480-5037)

Austin Rape Crisis Center

(440-7273)

Services Provided:

- Crisis intervention
- Advocacy for survivors of sexual assault
- Rape Awareness Training
- Support groups for survivors of sexual assault
- Sexual Assault Avoidance Workshops
- Prevention education to public schools

Austin Rehabilitation Center

(472-8189)

Services Provided:

- Residential treatment (24 beds) program for adolescents with substance abuse problems
- Outpatient services also provided to families

Austin-Travis County MHMR Center

(447-4141)

Services Provided:

- DayGlo Family Treatment -comprehensive child and family therapy treatment programs (crisis intervention to 12 months)
- Infant Parent Program -support and training to handicapped children (0-3 years old); to assist child in reaching full potential and help family remain cohesive

- Children's Liaison -provide a link between Outpatient Clinics and those families whose children are in treatment at the Austin State Hospital Children's Unit the Adolescent Unit and the Waco Center for Youth
- Family Preservation Unit
- Collier Street Out-patient Clinic -mental health and mental retardation clinic and family support clinic
- East Second Street Out-patient clinic -mental health and mental retardation clinic services to individuals and families
- Rosewood-Zaragosa Out-patient clinic -mental health and mental retardation clinic services to individuals and families
- Community Living Autism Program -behavioral/social interaction programing for autistic participants for skill maintenance and development

Austin-Travis County Shelter for Infants and Children Inc. (258-4579)

Services Provided:

- Emergency shelter/home for children (infants to age 9); Length of stay from 96 hours to 30 days.

Austin Wilderness Counseling Services (472-2927)

Services Provided:

- Prevention services youth at risk for substance abuse
- Wilderness therapeutic counseling program
- School-based counseling groups
- Individual, family and group counseling
- Adventure-based counseling groups

Austin YMCA (476-6705)

Services Provided:

- Youth sports programs and camping programs
- Parent-child programs

Austin YWCA (478-9922)

Services Provided:

- Y-TaPP (Teenage Parent Program)
- TRES (Latch-key Program)
- Parents Anonymous
- Educational, personal growth, and fitness programs for all ages

Bergstrom Air Force/Del Valle Youth Activities (369-2104)

Services Provided:

- Summer camp
- Educational, sports, and recreational programs
- Drug abuse workshops

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Austin Inc. (472-5437)

Services Provided:

- Provide children with positive adult role models

- usually on a one-to-one basis
- Child abuse prevention training with volunteers, parents and children

Boy's Club of Austin

(444-7199)

Services Provided:

- Personal adjustment and development
- Citizenship and leadership development
- Health and physical education
- Cultural enrichment; Social recreation

Boy Scouts of America-Capital Area Council

(926-6363)

Services Provided:

- Neighborhood, family centered programs for boys 7-10 years
- Camping and outdoor activities for boys 11-14 years
- Career exploration and adventure activities for high school age boys and girls

Campfire, Inc. Balcones Council

(426-2777)

Services Provided:

- Club programs
- Day and resident camping
- Self-reliance programs; family activities
- Special programs for handicapped youth

Capital Area Easter Seal Rehabilitation Center

(478-2581)

Services Provided:

- Physical, occupational and speech therapy
- Special education and pre-school for orthopedically and multi-disabled children
- Early Childhood Intervention
- Summer day camp
- Parent support group
- After-school recreation

CASA of Travis County, Inc./Court Appointed Special Advocate

(478-6627)

Services Provided:

- Advocate appointed by district judge in cases of alleged child abuse and neglect; CASA volunteers gather information, testify, make recommendations and monitor court orders

CEACO - Central East Austin Community Organization

(472-5575)

Services Provided:

- Kid's Supper Saturday (tutoring program for children ages 6-12)
- Buddy System Program (targets children who are excessively absent or tardy at school)
- Summer Youth Enhancement Program
- Children's Theater Workshop

CEDEN Family Resource Center

(477-9071)

Services Provided:

- Parent Child Program -to assist teen parents to improve infant skills, child development and parenting skills
- Teen Paternity Project - to assist teenage fathers to develop parenting skills and achieve their goals for education, job and family life
- Prenatal Education Project support and educational services for pregnant women and promote infant health
- Parent-Child Learning Center -provide parents and their pre-school age children with essential literacy and numeracy skills
- Family Advocacy Services -advocacy, counseling, social work services case management and referral

Center for Battered Women

(385-5181)

Services Provided:

- Emergency shelter for women and their children
- Counseling and therapy groups for children
- Recreational program for children

Child and Family Services Inc.

(478-1648)

Services Provided:

- Family Life Education
- Teenage Parenting services
- Child, individual, couple and family therapy

Child Inc.

(451-7361)

Services Provided:

- Head Start Program focusing on children from age 6 months to 5 years; Emphasis on families in need of child care
- Home based teachers and home care units provide children with planned developmental programming

City of Austin - Parks and Recreation Department
Summer Playgrounds Programs

(327-6683)

City of Austin - PARD/Recreation Centers

Services Provided:

- Alamo Recreational Center
- Dittmar Recreation Center
- Givens Recreation Center
- Dottie Jordan Recreation Center
- McBeth Recreation Center
- Metz-Martin Recreation Center
- Montopolis Recreation Center
- Northwest Recreation Center
- PanAm Recreation Center
- Parque Zaragosa Recreation Center
- Rosewood Recreation Center

- South Austin Recreation Center -offering athletic, cultural and educational programs for children (and families)

Colores Theater Collective (448-7344)

Communities In Schools Inc.- Austin (462-1771)

Services Provided:

- Dropout prevention program for AISD
- Counseling provided to children and parents;
Individual and group counseling

Community Advocates for Teens and Parents (480-8730)

Ebenezer Child Development Center (478-6709)

Services Provided:

- Nursery-child care for infants age 6 weeks to 2 years
- Readiness Program for children age 3 to 5 years;
meals provided (3xday)

Extend-A-Care (454-3651)

Services Provided:

- After school child care
- All day summer child care for working or student parents
(elementary age children up to 12 years)

Foundation for Texas Children (928-4312)

Services Provided:

- Child care for teenage mothers
- Parenting and Life Skills Teaching
- Advocacy on child welfare and juvenile issues

Girl Scouts - Lone Star Council (453-7391)

Services Provided:

- Project SELF (Shaping Excellent Leaders for the Future),
to deliver services to Austin Housing Authority sites with
the AISD Teen Parenting Project Program
- Short-term activities for individual girls
- Day and resident camping
- Career exploration; Values clarification; Fitness and sports

Jewish Community Center and Jewish Family Services (331-1141)

Services Provided:

- Early Childhood Program (Pre-school program and
Extended Care - fee for service)
- Jewish Family Services offers family, child and couples counseling

Junior Helping Hand Home for Children (459-3353)

Services Provided:

- Residential treatment center for children ages 4-12 years- the majority of the children are placed by TDHS

Learning Abilities Center - U.T. Austin

(471-1963)

Services Provided:

- Limited diagnostic and remedial services to children and youth with learning disabilities assessment available for children of above average intelligence for planning educational programs
- Reading and tutoring programs

Lutheran Social Services of Texas

(474-9561)

Services Provided:

- Unplanned Pregnancy Program
- Adoptions Services
- Foster Care
- Post-Adoption Program
- Individual and family counseling

March of Dimes - Central Texas Chapter

(328-3463)

Services Provided:

- Baby Booty Program -teenage pregnancy program for young women 18 years and younger; must attend a city health clinic within first 15 weeks of pregnancy and continue for at least 10 weeks; will receive a layette of baby clothes for completing program
- Chain Reaction Youth Council -council of teens from Austin area high school, sponsors a Youth Council and fundraising
- Prenatal care literature (free) and films for loan

Mary Lee Foundation

(444-5777)

Services Provided:

- Residential treatment for children ages 5-18 years; 6 Austin campuses; psychiatric, psychological and social services; Special education, vocational training

Marywood

(472-9251)

Services Provided:

- Residential or live-out maternity care for women placing an infant for adoption
- Counseling for families of expectant parents
- Pre-natal care and classes

Middle Earth Unlimited, Inc.

(447-5639)

Services Provided:

- Spectrum Emergency Shelter -provides services to 16 male/female youth ages 10-17 for up to 30 days; individual, family, and group

counseling, educational assistance

- Turning Point Independent Living Services -assists out-of-school youth in obtaining employment and complementing/continuing their education
- Youth and Family Resource Center -program intended to help prevent family problems that cause youth to leave home; 24-hour Crisis Hotline to assist youth and families; individual and family therapy; Parenting Skills Classes, Mother's Support Group
- CATS - Child Abuse Treatment Services program for victims of child physical and sexual abuse and their families
- WILLIS - Workshop in Independent Living Skills -summer youth employment program for low-income youth ages 14-17, provides an opportunity to gain job readiness and life skills
- SafePlace Program -local businesses and Fire Stations operate as Safeplace sites where youth can get help to get off the streets
- Del Valle Project -in cooperation with the Del Valle AISD a Crisis Intervention Counselor identifies and intervenes in problem areas of a youth's life that interfere with success in school

Morning Glory Treatment Center/Therapeutic Foster Home

(251-3298)

Services Provided:

- Therapeutic foster home for 10 children (male & female) ages 5-17 years

Open Door Preschool/Project Normalization

(447-9632)

Services Provided:

- Child care program for disabled and non-disabled children
- Screening with cooperation of other agencies for health, physical and psychological needs; referral services provided

Opportunity Enrichment Services Inc.

(926-0676)

Services Provided:

- Academic tutorial services for children ages 6-10 years program focuses on 6 Priority AISD school areas
- Summer tutoring and recreational program

Planned Parenthood of Austin

(472-0868)

Services Provided:

- Four locations in the Austin area
- Family planning services and pregnancy testing

Seton East Community Health Center

(385-4114)

* Teenage Pregnancy Program planned

South Austin Youth Services

(440-1111)

Services Provided:

- Youth dropout counseling (prevention)
- Individual, group and family counseling

- Advocacy; Crisis Intervention; Culturally appropriate activities to enhance positive self-image

The Dispute Resolution Center (458-5981)

Services Provided:

- Parent/Adolescent Mediation Program

The Pebble Project (328-6860)

Services Provided:

- Information, Referral, Advocacy, and Networking services
- School follow-up group
- Teen Helpline (323-6860)
- Training on child abuse and neglect

The Settlement Home (836-2150)

Services Provided:

- Residential treatment for emotionally disturbed children ages 9-18 years
- Independent Living Program
- Family counseling services

Teenage Parent Council of Austin, Inc. (473-8825)

Services Provided:

- Resource and referral for Teen Parenting and Pregnancy
- Teen Parent Services Network which is comprised of 31 agencies in the Austin area
- Stepping Stone Program (dropout prevention)
- School based support groups and at the Rosewood-Zaragosa Neighborhood Center

Travis County Extension Service - 4-H Clubs (473-9600)

Youth Advocacy Program (444-9505)

Services Provided:

- Prevention services for youth at risk for drug abuse
- Out-patient support groups
- Family Intervention for parents with substance abusing children

Travis County Sheriff Child Abuse Unit (322-4717)

Services Provided:

- Child Abuse Investigation
- DARE Program

TRIAD (448-7000)

Services Provided:

- Program involves the Austin/Travis County MHMR, Travis County Child Protective Services and the Travis

County Juvenile Court for youth who may need services but do not meet the specific agency requirements for services

- Services may include medical care, psychiatric, and psychological evaluations, residential treatment, case management, information and referral

*** Please note**

1. This roster of agencies does not include the proprietary agencies providing children and youth services in Austin/Travis County.
2. The description of services provided by the listed agencies focuses primarily on children and youth services. Many of these agencies provide multiple services not described.
3. Undoubtedly some agencies providing children and youth services have been inadvertently omitted from this list, including services provided in communities other than Austin.

Attachment C

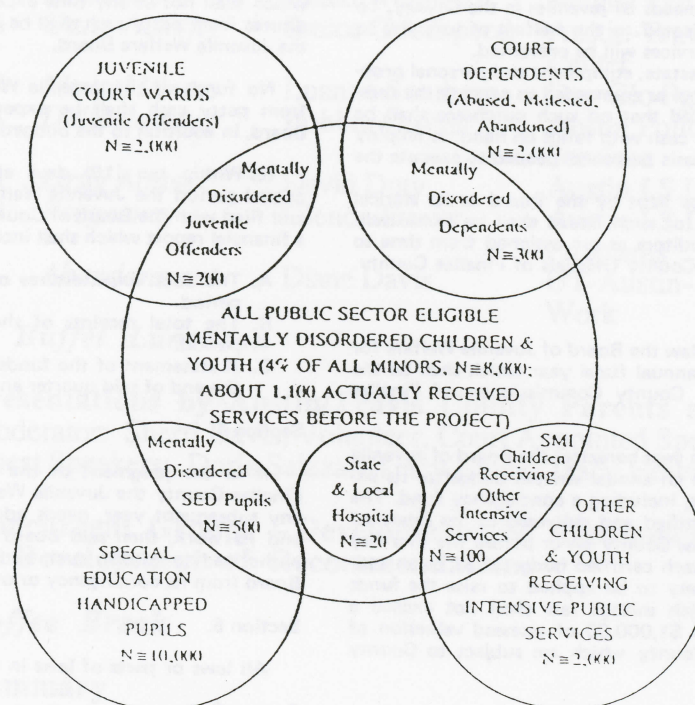
The Ventura Planning Model: A Proposal for Mental Health Reform

Daniel D. Jordan, Ph.D.
Mario Hernandez, Ph.D.

Abstract

The Ventura Planning Model is a proposal for public mental health reform. It addresses the decline in mental health funding. It offers a rationale for increased support—and funding—for public mental health services. The Planning Model grew out of the experience of implementing and operating the Ventura Children's Demonstration Project. The model has five characteristics, or planning steps: 1) multi-problem target population; 2) systems goals; 3) interagency coalitions; 4) services and standards; and 5) systems monitoring and evaluation. The Ventura Children's Demonstration Project implemented these planning steps, with an infusion of \$1.54 million in funds from the state legislature. The project offset at least 66 percent of its cost by reducing other public agency costs and improved a variety of client-oriented outcomes. The success of the project in offsetting its costs has led the legislature to provide additional funds for three more California counties to implement the model for children and youth, and \$4 million a year for four years for Ventura County to test the model for adults and seniors. Emphasizing cost offsets in addition to client-oriented outcomes provides a practical rationale for proposing increases in public mental health funds. This rationale also implies substantial changes in the operations of many public mental health agencies."

Figure 1
Ventura County's Child & Youth Target Populations -



Note that other localities might arrive at other overlapping groups based on differences in public policies which define the groups for whom the public sector has taken responsibility.

COMPOSITE
JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD ACT

Chapter 23, 483, Special Acts of 1945
as amended in 1947, 1949, 1955, 1961, 1965, 1970

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA:

Section 1.

That there is hereby created for Pinellas County, Florida, a Board of Juvenile Welfare, which shall consist of nine (9) members. Four (4) of said members shall be the County Superintendent of Public Instruction, both Judges of the Juvenile Court, and the Vice-Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County, Florida, who each shall hold office on the said board during his term of office in his official capacity stated. The other five (5) members shall be appointed by the Governor of the State of Florida. All appointments of members of the said Board required to be made by the governor shall be for the term of four (4) years each. If any of the members of said board required to be appointed by the governor under the provisions of this act shall resign, die or be removed from office, the vacancy thereby created shall, as soon as practicable, be filled by appointment by the governor, and such appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for the unexpired term of the person who resigns, dies or is removed from office.

Section 2.

The Board hereby created shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To provide and maintain in the County such child guidance, psychological or psychiatric clinics for juveniles as the Board determines are needed for the general welfare of the County.

(b) To provide for the care of dependent juveniles and to provide such other services for all juveniles as the Board determines are needed for the general welfare of the County.

(c) To allocate and provide funds for other agencies in the County which are operated for the benefit of juveniles, provided they are not under the exclusive jurisdiction of the public school system.

(d) To collect information and statistical data which will be helpful to the Board in deciding the needs of juveniles in the County. To consult with other agencies dedicated to the welfare of juveniles to the end that the overlapping of services will be prevented.

(e) To lease or buy such real estate, equipment and personal property and to construct such buildings as are needed to execute the foregoing powers and duties, provided that no such purchases shall be made or building done except for cash with funds on hand; to employ and pay on a part- or full-time basis personnel needed to execute the foregoing powers and duties.

(f) Books of account shall be kept by the Board or its clerical assistants, and the fiscal affairs of such Board shall be exclusively audited by such of the State auditors as are assigned from time to time to audit the affairs of the County Officials of Pinellas County.

Section 3.

(a) After this Act becomes a law the Board of Juvenile Welfare for Pinellas County shall adopt an annual fiscal year which shall be the same as that of the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County.

On or before July 1st of each year hereafter the Board of Juvenile Welfare shall prepare and adopt an annual written budget of its expected income and expenditures, including a contingency fund. The said written budget shall be certified and delivered to the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County on or before the first day of July each year. Included in each certified budget shall be an estimate of the millage rate necessary to be applied to raise the funds budgeted for expenditures, which millage rate shall not exceed a maximum of 50 cents for each \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation of all properties within Pinellas County which are subject to County taxes.

Said budget of the Board of Juvenile Welfare so certified and delivered to the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County shall not be subject to change or modification by the said Board of County Commissioners, or any other authority.

(b) In order to provide funds for the Board there shall be levied annually on all property in Pinellas County which is subject to County taxes an additional tax of up to Fifty Cents (50¢) for each One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) of assessed valuation of said property for the year 1965 and each subsequent year.

The Board of County Commissioners shall direct the levy of said additional tax at the millage rate so certified by the Juvenile Welfare Board, up to a maximum of 50 cents for each \$1,000.00 of the assessed valuation of all property in the County which is subject to County tax.

The additional tax above provided shall be assessed, levied and collected in the same manner and at the same times, as is provided by law for the levy, collection and enforcement of collection of other County taxes. All tax money collected under the terms of this Act, as soon after the collection thereof as is reasonably practical, shall be paid directly to the Board of Juvenile Welfare by the Tax Collector of the County or the Clerk of the Circuit Court if he collects delinquent taxes. The monies so received by the Juvenile Welfare Board shall be deposited in a special bank account and shall be withdrawn only by checks signed by the Chairman of said Board, and countersigned by one other member of the Juvenile Welfare Board who shall be so authorized by the Board.

The Chairman and the other member of the Board who signs its checks should each give a surety bond in the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), which bond shall be conditioned that each will faithfully discharge the duties of his office. No other member of the Board shall be required to give bond or other security.

No funds of the Juvenile Welfare Board shall be expended except by check as aforesaid, except expenditures from a petty cash account which shall not at any time exceed Twenty-Five (\$25.00). All expenditures from petty cash shall be recorded on the books and records of the Juvenile Welfare Board.

No funds of the Juvenile Welfare Board excepting expenditures from petty cash shall be expended without prior approval of the Board, in addition to the budgeting thereof.

(c) Within ten (10) days after the expiration of each quarter annual period the Juvenile Welfare Board shall cause to be prepared and filed with the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County a financial report which shall include the following:

- A. The total expenditures of the Board for said quarter annual period.
- B. The total receipts of the Board during said quarter annual period.
- C. A statement of the funds the Board has on hand or in banks at the end of said quarter annual period.

Section 4.

If in the judgment of the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County the Juvenile Welfare Board, during the year 1965 or any subsequent year, needs additional funds to further its purposes and its work, then said Board of County Commissioners is hereby authorized to furnish such additional funds to the Juvenile Welfare Board from its contingency or other reserves.

Section 5.

All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 6.

This Act shall become a law immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor, or upon its becoming a law without such approval.

Attachment D

Community Leadership Conference on Children and Adolescents in Austin/Travis County

Friday, June 15, 1990

Joe C. Thompson Conference Center
The University of Texas at Austin

8:00	Registration <i>Continental Breakfast and Coffee</i>	1st floor lot Room 3.1																																												
9:00	Welcome Dr. Wayne H. Holtzman, President Hogg Foundation for Mental Health	Room 3.1																																												
9:15	Introduction to the Problem Judge Paul R. Davis Jr., Travis County 200th District Court																																													
9:30	Concurrent Group Discussions <table><tr><td>1</td><td><i>Suicide</i></td><td>Betty Phillips</td><td>Austin I.S.D. Student Support Services</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td><i>Neglect</i></td><td>Jerene Peterson</td><td>Youth and Family Resource Center</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td><i>Sexual Abuse</i></td><td>Ann Stanley</td><td>Day Glo Pgm-ATCMHMR</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td><i>Physical Abuse</i></td><td>Ron Perett</td><td>TDHS Child Protective Services</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td><i>Runaway</i></td><td>Mitch Weynand</td><td>Middle Earth</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td><i>Gang Activity</i></td><td>Janice Goodspeed</td><td>Austin-Travis County MHMR Center</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td><i>Mental Illness</i></td><td>Luanne Southern</td><td>Day Glo Pgm-ATCMHMR</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td><i>Delinquency</i></td><td>Bobbie Owens</td><td>Austin Police Dept. Youth Services</td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td><i>Drug Abuse</i></td><td>David Duty</td><td>Austin I.S.D. Student Affairs</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td><i>Pregnancy</i></td><td>Glenda Stover</td><td>Austin I.S.D.-At-Risk Programs</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td><i>Abandonment</i></td><td>Diane Davis</td><td>UT-Austin-School of Social Work</td></tr></table>	1	<i>Suicide</i>	Betty Phillips	Austin I.S.D. Student Support Services	2	<i>Neglect</i>	Jerene Peterson	Youth and Family Resource Center	3	<i>Sexual Abuse</i>	Ann Stanley	Day Glo Pgm-ATCMHMR	4	<i>Physical Abuse</i>	Ron Perett	TDHS Child Protective Services	5	<i>Runaway</i>	Mitch Weynand	Middle Earth	6	<i>Gang Activity</i>	Janice Goodspeed	Austin-Travis County MHMR Center	7	<i>Mental Illness</i>	Luanne Southern	Day Glo Pgm-ATCMHMR	8	<i>Delinquency</i>	Bobbie Owens	Austin Police Dept. Youth Services	9	<i>Drug Abuse</i>	David Duty	Austin I.S.D. Student Affairs	10	<i>Pregnancy</i>	Glenda Stover	Austin I.S.D.-At-Risk Programs	11	<i>Abandonment</i>	Diane Davis	UT-Austin-School of Social Work	
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11:45	Buffet Luncheon	Room 2.1																																												
12:30	Presentations by Austin/Travis County Parents and Youth Moderator: Sherri Davis, Volunteer, Court Appointed Special Advocates Guest Speakers: Doris Salazar, Tracy Cluck, Tracy Howze, Michelle Cruz																																													
1:30	Concurrent Groups – Development of Recommendations Development of Recommendations	Room 3.1																																												
3:30	Coffee Break																																													
3:45	Summary Judge Paul R. Davis, Jr																																													
4:00	Adjournment																																													

Attachment E

CONFERENCE SUMMARY

Community Leadership Conference on Children and Adolescents in Austin/Travis County

Eleven discussion groups met in two sessions. The morning session focused on barriers and problems in the existing system of services for children and adolescents illustrated in case summaries dealing with different types of youth problems. During the afternoon session, all discussion groups dealt with recommendations for the improvement of the existing system of services. A recorder in each group prepared a brief written summary of the key recommendations decided on in the discussion. Those written summaries were the source for this report. The summary of recommendations is presented first, followed by a summary of the discussions on barriers and problems.

Recommendations for Community Action

Each discussion group was asked to identify the three most important recommendations among those that the group had considered. The following materials reflects the major recommendations with illustrative details taken from reports of individual discussion groups. The number of discussion groups that dealt with a particular topic as reflected in the written summary is noted.

1. There should be a central community-wide, telephone-accessible information system for members of the public and for agency staff personnel. (Identified by six discussion groups)
 - central data base on agency services
 - information and referral service
 - computer-based information service
 - widely publicized information service
 - youth service hotline
 - increased accessibility through "human services mall"
2. There should be systematic procedures for centralized coordination of services in individual case situations, particularly for complex, multi-problem situations. (Identified by nine discussion groups)
 - clearinghouse system on individual situations
 - central intake for services
 - case management services for continuity of services
 - "hub component" for service coordination
 - structure "collaboration groups" or networks among agencies
 - need for continuum of services, including school-based services
 - interagency board to oversee such a process
3. Priority should be given to early intervention, preventive services for youth and their families. (Identified by six discussion groups)
 - home-based services
 - outreach services
4. There should be systematic procedures for agency self-evaluation and for community-level evaluation of service quality. (Identified by three discussion groups)
 - city-wide body to oversee such processes
 - fund innovative programs and high-quality programs
 - review marginal programs
5. The interagency process represented by the Leadership Conference should be continued. (Identified by two discussion groups)

- Hogg Foundation support for continuation
- develop community-wide leadership group to support this process
- 6. There should be a community initiative to develop a separate tax district (like a hospital district) to raise funds for and oversee services for children and adolescents. (Identified by two discussion groups)
- 7. Other recommendations reported by a single group include:
 - study county administration of Child Protective Services
 - get ideas from gang members in developing services
 - make public schools the central location base for services funded from various sources
 - structure services around a neighborhood base
 - recruit older adults as volunteers for youth services
 - train administrators

Barriers and Problems

The morning discussions resulted in identifying a combination of barriers, problems, and the absence of needed resources. The following is a summary of the major areas of issue identified from the eleven discussion groups.

1. There are specific problems and issues related to families and services for families that limit the effectiveness of current service programs. (Identified by all eleven discussion groups)
 - family structures have changed requiring service changes
 - family resistance to service recommendations for children
 - family may be the source of child's problems
 - conflict between families and community expectations and rules
 - need for services to whole family
 - need for outreach and home-based services
 - the family should be a partner in the service plan, not just the object of services
 - services need to be designed to help family with multiple problems
 - priority is needed for preventive and early intervention services
 - services for families with an incarcerated member and families of gang members
 - services needed for unwanted and abandoned children
2. There is frequently an absence of consistent follow through between agencies on multi-problem situations. (Identified by eight discussion groups)
 - failure to track new developments in a family situation
 - lack of a basic point of responsibility
 - lack of case management continuity
 - inconsistent, duplicative, and contradictory procedures among agencies
 - need for simplified single intake form
 - need for pool of funds to cover services not available from any one agency

3. There is now a fragmented and confusing pattern of services and agencies. (Identified by seven discussion groups)
 - this creates severe stress for families seeking help
 - staff in agencies do not know about other services
 - lack of an accurate and up-to-date Information and Referral Manual listing agencies and their services
4. There are specific problems in the performance of service agencies, individually or as a group. (Identified by six discussion groups)
 - narrow definitions of services
 - turf conflicts
 - interagency competition over funding
 - deliberate selection of "most likely to succeed" service users
 - rejection of disruptive children
 - staff treatment of service users
 - priority emphasis on organizational maintenance
 - inefficient use of staff
 - labelling and stigmatizing as a condition for receiving services
 - Texas Department of Human Services is too bureaucratic
 - juvenile justice services are basically punitive in their approach
 - need for better pay for professionals
5. Some of the difficulties are the result of public attitudes. (Identified by six discussion groups)
 - lack of community leadership on these problems
 - public resistance to spending more money
 - public (and agencies) make moral judgments about people in need of assistance
 - ideological conflicts in society about dealing with problems
 - need for community education, including better understanding about natural processes of teenage, street-corner group behavior
 - breakdown in a sense of community responsibility for dealing with problems
6. The schools are an essential part of meeting the needs of youth. (Identified by four of the discussion groups)
 - there is a lack of resources in many schools
 - there may be difficulties in the relationship between schools and some families
 - teachers have difficulty in finding community resources to deal with problems of individual students
 - there is a need for more services in, or associated with, the school setting
7. Specific types of services or arrangements are missing or inadequate. (Identified by three of the discussion groups)
 - transportation
 - child care
 - hours and locations should be more accessible to users
 - respite services for families
 - family needs for food and shelter
 - full psychological assessments should be a regular part of all mental health intakes.

Attachment F

EVALUATION SUMMARY

Community Leadership Action Conference on Children and Adolescents in Austin/Travis County

An evaluation of the Community Leadership Action Conference held on June 15, 1990 was conducted based on the responses to a questionnaire distributed at the conference. Over 120 people attended the conference and of those, 63 people responded to the evaluation (80 percent included written comments). The following represents a summary of the responses offered by participants at the conference.

Information Exchange:

Most respondents indicated that the conference did offer some new information, although they said it was mostly informal information (i.e., meeting people in the field, networking and learning about other agencies or organizations). Other positive comments were made about the cross-section of people participating and the quality of the background materials included in the conference packets.

Conference Format:

Participants particularly enjoyed the format of the conference and thought it was quite conducive to achieving the intended goals. Many stated that participating as "Community Leaders" rather than as agency representatives resulted in a much more relaxed and productive atmosphere. Some mentioned that the group discussions became noisy and distracting at times because there were so many different groups in one room.

Achievement of Goals:

Most believed that the conference did achieve its goals but many suggested that some of the goals achieved were not the ones necessarily stated at the beginning of the conference. Some commented that the goals of the conference were not stated clearly enough at the beginning of the day.

Future Conference Participation:

In both the formal evaluation questions and the written comments about the conference, participants were enthusiastic about attending another conference with this format. Responses indicated that participants were very pleased with the results of the conference. In fact, the question relating to future participation elicited the most favorable response in the survey. Respondents did, however, have one reservation—they wanted to see some action taken on the recommendations developed at this conference before they commit themselves to another all-day meeting. If there is some follow up on the recommendations, most said they would gladly participate in future community leadership conferences.

Attachment G

EVALUATION FORM

(To be completed by Conference Participants)

Table # : _____

Topic : _____

1. How effective was the facilitator who worked with your group?

a. Did he/she establish and maintain the discussion ground rules?

1	2	3	4
Very effective	Effective	Somewhat effective	Not effective at all

b. Did he/she facilitate communication among the group members?

1	2	3	4
Very effective	Effective	Somewhat effective	Not effective at all

c. Did he/she encourage everyone to participate in the discussion?

1	2	3	4
Very effective	Effective	Somewhat effective	Not effective at all

d. Did he/she keep the discussion focussed on the topic?

1	2	3	4
Very effective	Effective	Somewhat effective	Not effective at all

2. How effective was the Community Leadership Conference overall?

a. Do you think the Conference offered any new information?

1	2	3
Definitely	Somewhat	Definitely not

b. Was the format of the Conference conducive to achieving the intended goals?

1	2	3
Definitely	Somewhat	Definitely not

c. Did the Conference achieve its stated goals?

1	2	3
Definitely	Somewhat	Definitely not

d. Would you attend another Conference of this type in the future?

1	2	3
Definitely	Possibly	Definitely not

EVALUATION FORM
(Continued)

3. Comments and Suggestions

a. Please indicate to us the strengths and the weaknesses of the Conference.

b. Please describe to us what would make this Conference more effective.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK!!

